



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
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December 15, 2003

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Re: D.T.E. 03-123, Massachusetts Electric Company's SOSFA/*Now is the Time to Choose* proposal

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

On December 12, 2003, Massachusetts Electric Company and Nantucket Electric Company (together the "Company") requested that the Department maintain the December 15, 2003, schedule for comments on its proposal to fix the SOSFA factor at the current level but defer the comment date until January 14, 2003, for its *Now is the Time to Choose* proposal, filed with the Department on October 30, 2003.

The Department should not approve the proposed continuation of the SOSFA factor at current levels. Fixing the SOSFA at 1.424 cents is above and contrary to the Restructuring Settlement Agreement, Department precedent and the public interest. The Department instead should follow the established practice for setting the SOSFA and the Standard Offer Adjustment Factor. Because maintaining the SOSFA at current levels is an integral part of the *Now Is The Time To Choose* proposal, the comments should be made together on January 14th.

In light of the Company's extension request and given indications that Department will most likely grant the extension, the Attorney General will defer commenting further at this time. The Attorney General reserves his right to comment on the Company's entire proposal after he reviews the Company's revised filings.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Edward G. Bohlen
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Jeanne Voveris, Esq.
Amy Rabinowitz